Battalion Landing Team (BLT)
Second Battalion, Second Marines
(2/2)
"Warlords"
Pre-deployment Brief

Informed, Prepared, and Ready

17 March 2011

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Purpose

- To allow the Marines, Sailors, and their spouses an opportunity to meet/talk to the BLT Commander, Company/Battery Commanders, and the entire BLT Family Readiness Team.

- To ensure Marines, Sailors, and spouses are informed, prepared, & ready for the Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) deployment.

- To explain what the BLT Family Readiness program provides to the families and to encourage personal responsibility in family readiness.

- Encourage and foster relationships among the spouses of the BLT.

Endstate

- To assist Marines, Sailors & all Warlord families to be informed, prepared, & ready for the 22d MEU deployment.

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Agenda

- BLT Task Organization
- Family Readiness TEAM and Vision
- What is Battalion Landing Team 2/2?
- Where are we going?
- How will this influence pay?
- When/How will the Marine/Sailor get mail?
- What happens if a Marine/Sailor is hurt?
- What can / can we not talk about concerning the deployment?
- How can Marine Corps Family Team Building help?
- CO’s closing comments

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BLT Task Organization

LtCol Miller
BLT CO

Heather Miller CO Spouse

Family Readiness Command Team Leadership

Ms. Diana Medina BLT FRO

Maj Connolly BLT XO

SgtMaj DeAbreu BLT SgtMaj

LT Eastman BLT Chaplain

Capt Vogel
H&S Co

Capt Gorman
Easy Co

Capt Bellman
Fox Co

Capt Helminski
Golf Co

Capt Benbow
Weapons Co

Capt Baker
Lima Battery

SSgt Scott
RBE

Family Readiness Advisor(s)

Family Readiness Assistant(s)

Morale Support Volunteer(s)

FOCUS OF EFFORT

Marines, Sailors, Spouses, Children, Designated Parents/Extended Family

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Family Readiness Vision

Informed

- Keep abreast of BLT events and information by keeping your contact information current with the Family Readiness Officer.
- Check the BLT website and 1-800 number regularly.

Prepared

- Ensure you have a current Power of Attorney, Will, and family care plan.
- Talk to your Marine/Sailor about the upcoming deployment.
- Develop a family deployment plan where everyone is involved and informed.
- Attend a LINKS class, even if you have done it in the past. The Marine Corps is constantly offering families new resources. Find out about them!

Ready

- Build relationships with other families through the BLT's Family Events.
- Continue a state of readiness by attending "Beyond the Brief", "In the Midst", and "Reunion Briefs" throughout the deployment.

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Official Communication

- **Receiving E-MAIL updates from the Family Readiness Officer**
  - To receive information from the Family Readiness Officer, the Marine must place your correct contact information into the Family Readiness module in MOL.
  - The only person that can update or input this information is the Marine.
- **Monthly Newsletter**
- **BLT Website**
  - http://www.marines.mil/unit/2ndmardiv/2ndmarreg/2ndbat/Pages/Welcome.aspx
- **22d MEU Website**
  - http://www.usmc.mil/unit/22ndMEU/Pages/Family/FRO.aspx
- **1-800 Hotline: Dial 1-800-230-8762**
  - Regularly updated by the command
  - Dial 1-800-230-8762, when prompted, dial 12 to go directly to the BLT 2/2 message

Final FRO Thoughts

- Know your FRO: **Mrs. Diana Medina**
  - PHONE: (O) 910-451-4018
  - EMAIL: diana.m.medina1@usmc.mil

- Know your Deputy FRO : **SSgt Harold Scott**
  - PHONE: (O) 910-451-3521
  - EMAIL : harold.scott1@usmc.mil

- You are not alone; stay connected with your BLT 2/2 family
- Attend family readiness events and stay involved
- Communication is key!
- FRO is moving to the trailers behind the 3/2 CP.

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Battalion Landing Team 2/2

"BLT" = Battalion Landing Team

- **Infantry Battalion**
- **Artillery Battery**
- **Reconnaissance Platoon**
- **Tank Platoon**
- **Light Armored Reconnaissance Platoon**
- **Combat Engineer Platoon**
- **Assault Amphibian Platoon**

BLT 2/2 is the ground combat element for the 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit (22d MEU). The 22d MEU consists of a command element, ground combat element, aviation combat element, and a logistics combat element. The MEU's mission is to provide our country's political and military leadership with a forward deployed, flexible, sea-based Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) capable of rapidly executing amphibious operations across the spectrum of conflict (i.e., humanitarian assistance to full-scale combat operations).

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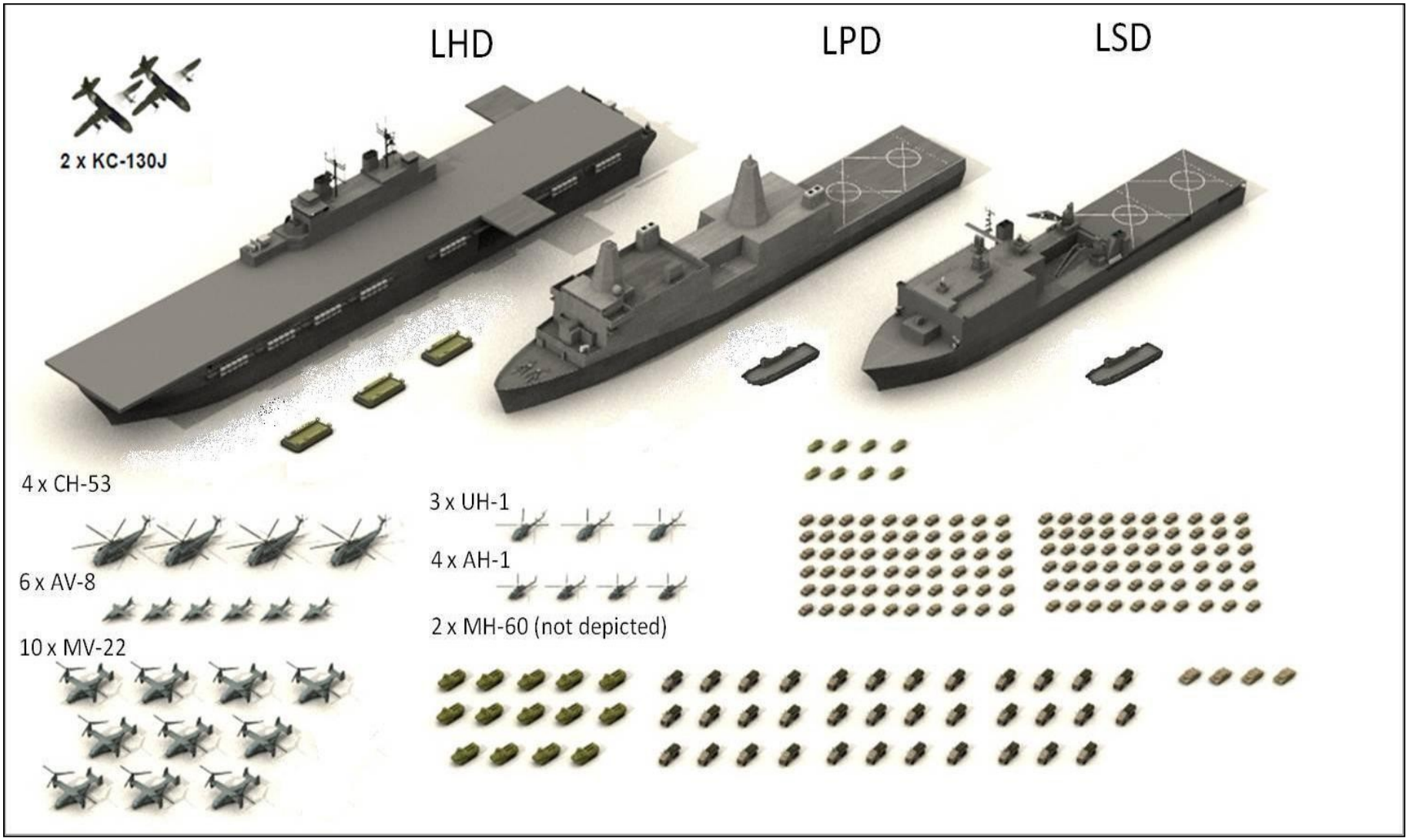
BLT 2/2 and the 22d MEU



Pay

ENTITLEMENT	CAMP LEJEUNE (CONUS)	DEPLOYED (ON SHIP/OCONUS)	DEDUCTION (ON SHIP/OCONUS)
Family Separation Allowance (FSA) – married only	$0.00	$250.00	NONE
BAH w/ dependents	Depends on grade	Depends on grade (NO CHANGE)	NONE
BAS Enlisted	$325.04	$325.04 (NO CHANGE)	$9.25 daily deduction ($277.50/month)
BAS Officer	$223.84	$223.84 (NO CHANGE)	$9.25 daily deduction ($277.50/month)
Imminent Danger Pay (IDP) / Hostile Fire Pay (HFP)	$0.00	$225.00	NONE
Hazardous Duty Pay (HDP)	$0.00	$50.00-150.00	NONE
Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE)	$0.00	Base Pay is TAX FREE (after crossing Suez Canal)	NONE
Career Sea Pay	$0.00	Starts at $50.00…	NONE

= additional money = possible additional money = deducted money

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Pay

- Split Pay
  - A means to receive money while deployed and allow family members at home to have a known payday
  - Works the same as an allotment
  - Eliminates the danger of member and spouse accidentally spending the same funds
- Stored-Value Card (SVC)
  - Only method of payment for services or merchandise on ship
  - Accepted world-wide anywhere MasterCard, Maestro or Cirrus logo is displayed
  - Will be loaded bi-weekly automatically with your split pay amount
- Savings Deposit Program
  - Only available in combat zones (Afghanistan or Iraq right now)
  - $10,000 maximum contribution (**Cannot deposit more than your net disposable pay**)
  - Must be in the combat zone for 30 days to contribute
  - 10% annual interest rate

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Mailing Addresses

USS BATAAN (LHD-5)

2/2 H&S CO
UNIT 73065
FPO AE 09502-3065

2/2 F CO
UNIT 73075
FPO AE 09502-3075

2/2 WPNS CO
UNIT 73085
FPO AE 09502-

USS MESA VERDE (LPD-19)

2/2 G CO
UNIT 73080
FPO AE 09502-3080

2/2 E CO DET 1
UNIT 73071
FPO AE 09502-3071

2/2 H&S CO DET 1
UNIT 73066

2/2 WPNS CO DET 1
UNIT 73086
FPO AE 09502-3086

3/10 L BTRY DET 1

Example address:
LCpl Seth A. Jones, USMC
3/10 L BTRY DET 1
UNIT 73381
FPO AE 09502-3381

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USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD-41)

2/2 E CO
UNIT 73070
FPO AE 09502-3070

2/2 H&S CO DET 2
UNIT 73067
FPO AE 09502-3067

3/10 L BTRY
UNIT 73380

Mail

- What cannot be mailed
  - Illegal substances
  - Alcohol
  - Obscene articles
  - Weapons
  - Explosives
- What can be mailed?
  - Letters
  - Packages
- USPS Information
  - PS Form 2976-A is required for all mail weighing 1lb or more
  - More information can be found at USPS.com
- What is MotoMail?
  - Family and friends of deployed Marines and Sailors can send a letter to be downloaded and printed on the ship.
  - The service is free, private, and secure.
  - WWW.MOTOMAIL.US

Mailing addresses are active starting on 1 April

Casualties

- Prior to deploying, you should discuss this serious topic
- The command (HQMC) is responsible for handling all activities associated with casualties
  - The Family Readiness Officer (FRO) has no official role in the casualty notification and handling process; you will NEVER receive casualty information from the FRO
  - The Record of Emergency Data (RED) is the primary document for notification and officially identifying beneficiaries
  - Injuries
  - Telephonic notification from HQMC will be made for injuries
  - Telephonic updates by HQMC of the injured until he is returned to duty, placed on convalescent leave, or the family is at his bedside
  - Fatalities
  - A Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) (a team of Marines led by a SNCO) will make physical notification of the fatality of a Marine or Sailor in Service Alphas
  - The CACO team will support the family throughout all proceedings, only once any/all issues are resolved.

Public Affairs

PAO: **Capt Binford Strickland** (Officer in Charge)
binford.strickland@usmc.mil
PA Chief: SSgt Wayne Campbell
wayne.campbell1@usmc.mil

Mission: To provide timely and accurate information to the public, the media, and family and friends.

Information Channels:
Website**:** **www.marines.mil/unit/22ndmeu**
www.22ndmeu.marines.mil
DVIDS**:www.dvidshub.net/units/22meu**

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Public Affairs

- **What to do if you are contacted by external media?**
  - Accept or decline. It's your choice, don't feel pressured.
  - You can always refer the external media to the II MEF Public Affairs Office
  - You can receive guidance, coordination, and preparation support for an interview from the Public Affairs Office

- **Social Media: Any web site allowing people to link to others to share opinions, insights, experiences, perspectives, imagery, video, etc.**
  - MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, blogs, Photobucket, YouTube, etc.

- **Responsibilities - How a Marine or his family can get in trouble**
  - Violating Operational Security (OPSEC) – Classified or sensitive material
    - Ship schedules, unit sizes, return dates, operational locations/details, etc.
  - Violating Privacy Act – FOUO or personal identifiable information
    - Social security numbers, dates of birth, etc.
  - Bringing discredit upon yourself or the Corps
  - Political statements, comments on policy, endorsements, solicitations

Operational Security

Operational Security –The process denying to potential adversaries information about capabilities and/or intentions by identifying, controlling and protecting information that, if released, will put you and your unit in potential danger.

Pictures of ECP in Afghanistan

Posted on girlfriend's Facebook

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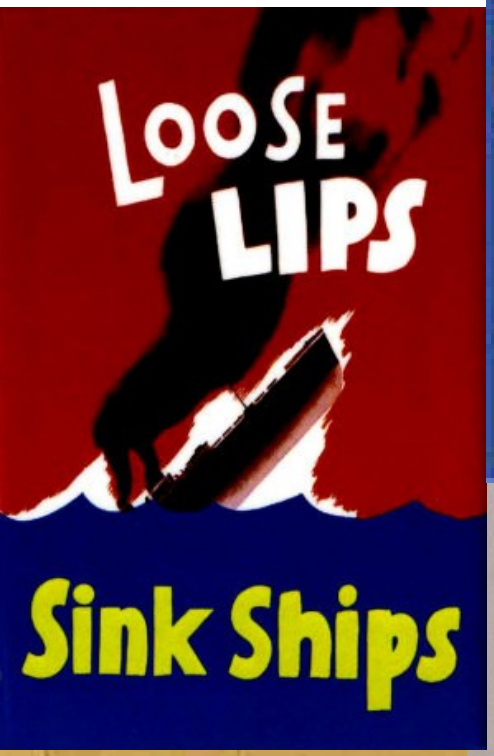
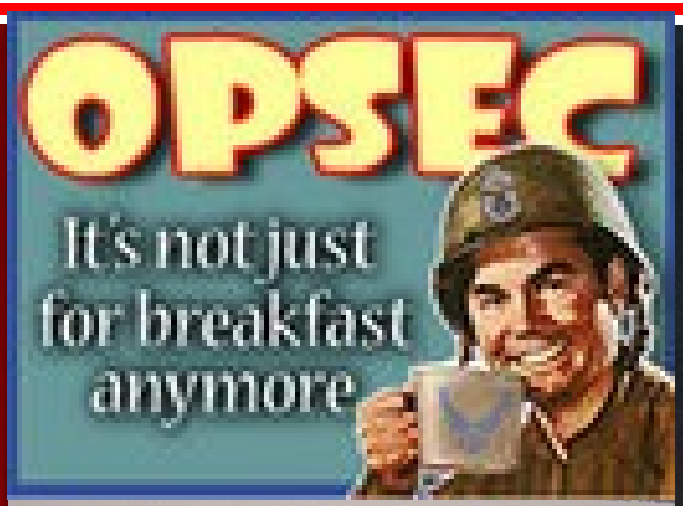
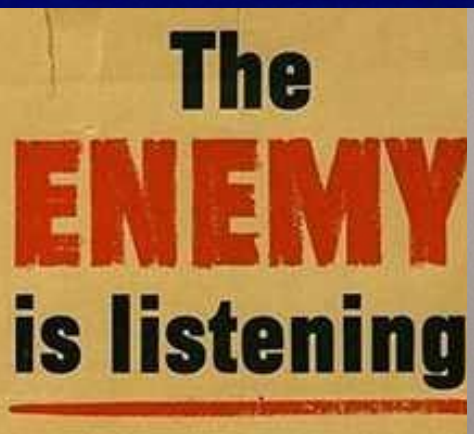
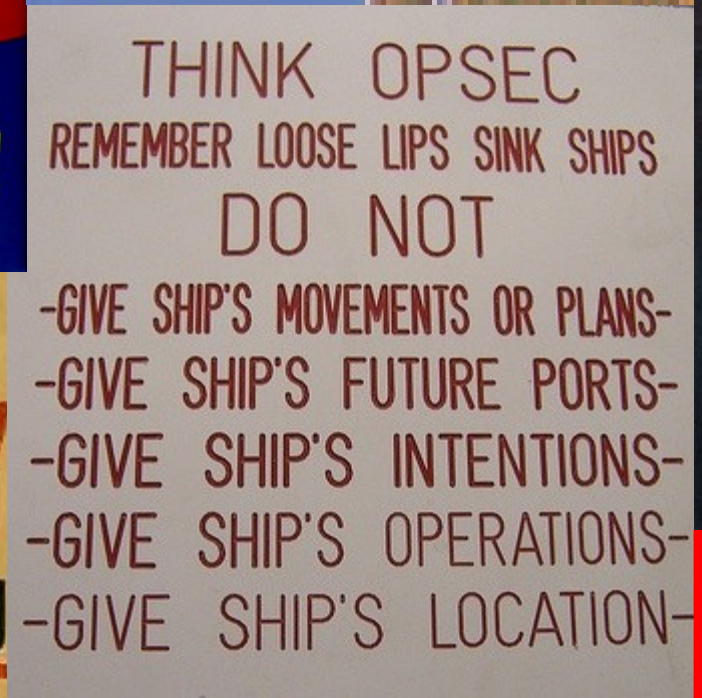
Operational Security









THINK

Marine Corps Family Team Building

Marine Corps Family Team Building
LCH 4012A Butler Drive
Midway Park, NC 28544
Phone: 910-451-0176

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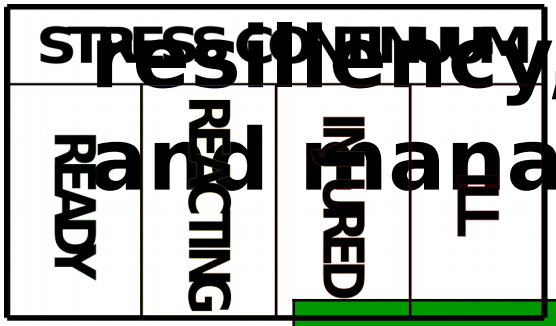
Deployment Stress

- Stress problems are common during deployments
- Stress reactions fall along a continuum
- There is an emotional cycle of deployment
- Tools are available to help build resiliency, cope with separation, and manage deployment stress



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Resources

- **Military OneSource**
- **Tri-Care Telehealth**
- **Stress & Anger Management Workshops**
- **Chaplains**
- **Community Counseling Services**
- **Combat Operational Stress Workshops**

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Marine Corps Family Team Building

- **Readiness & Deployment Support**
- **Family Readiness Program Training**
- **L.I.N.K.S.**
  - **(next L.I.N.K.S. 23-24 Mar, 1700-2100)**
- **Life Skills**
  - **(next Life skills 31 Mar-1 Apr, 0800-1530)**
- **CREDO**

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Questions

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHO YOUR FAMILY READINESS OFFICER IS BEFORE LEAVING.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Final Thoughts

- Red Cross Messages - the avenue to get an important official message to a Marine
- Communications (River City)
- Notify FRO if departing the local area (address, phone number, & e-mail)
- TRICARE portability for extended periods of time
- Ensure your ID card(s) are valid throughout the deployment
- Ensure wills, powers of attorney, and other important documents are kept in safe place.
- If you have a birth of Child, ensure you enroll them in DEERS by the 30-day mark with the Mother's Birth Certificate; update with SSN card
- Care Packages are key! The ships' store is not a PX; everyone needs love from home

Questions

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